



**Kindly add the following Claims 20-34:**

- 20. Compacted carbon black pellets having a relative color intensity, based on the uncompacted powder, of greater than 100%.

21. The pellets of Claim 20 wherein the pellets have an average particle size of 0.3 to 2 mm and a quotient of density and bulk density between 3.0 and 10.

22. The pellets of Claim 20 wherein the pellets comprise one or more binders and/or dispersants in a total quantity of 0.1 to 25 wt.%, based on the weight of the pellets.

23. The pellets of Claim 22 wherein the binder comprises a liquid polyol, polyether, polyester, oil, water or an aqueous solution of a polymeric salt or molasses.

24. The pellets of Claim 22 wherein the dispersant comprises a lignin sulfonate or a naphthalene/formaldehyde condensation product.

25. A process for the production of carbon black pellets which comprises compacting carbon black in the presence of an auxiliary substance and comminuting it to pellets having an average particle size of 0.3 to 2 mm and a quotient of density and bulk density between 3.0 and 10.

26. The process of Claim 25 comprising performing the compaction two or more times.

27. The process of Claim 25 comprising performing the compaction two or more times at different compressive forces in each compaction stage.

28. The process of Claim 25 comprising using compression forces of between 1 and 100 kN/cm.

29. The process of Claim 25 comprising performing the compactation by screws, rollers, die presses or extruders.

30. The process of Claim 25 wherein the auxiliary substance is one or more binders and/or dispersants used in total quantity of 0.1 to 25 wt.%, based on the weight of the pellet.

31. The process of Claim 30, wherein the binder comprises a liquid polyol, polyether, polyester, oil, water or an aqueous solution of a polymeric salt or molasses.

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